

# CITY OF CORDOVA



ALASKA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC FACILITIES  
STIP COMMENTS  
Program Development  
3132 Channel Drive, Suite 200  
Juneau, AK 99801-7898

December 3, 2005

Gentlemen:

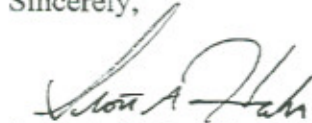
We have reviewed what we understand to be the latest draft of the '2006-2008 Alaska Statewide Transportation Improvement Program' and have found that many projects that were on previous STIP's for the Cordova area or had been promised for the Cordova area apparently have disappeared from this most recent program listing or delayed. We request that these projects be reinstated or brought back to their previous status. These projects include, in their order of priority to Cordova:

- 1- Cordova Streets Reconstruction Project. In 2002 this project was submitted into the STIP process and included the reconstruction of a number of City paved streets that are in dire need of major repairs. This project was accepted and appeared on subsequent STIP schedules with the appropriate time frames for completion. This project was cancelled from the most recent STIP and the City of Cordova requests that it be reinstated. If the subject streets are not given consideration the pavement will soon have to be removed and the streets will revert back to gravel with all the problems inherent to gravel streets, i.e., dust, high maintenance costs and undesirable traveling conditions.
- 2- Shepard Point Road. This road has been a high priority for Cordova for nearly ten years as it would provide access to a deep water port and represent a major revitalization to the Cordova economy. The current Draft STIP delays this project yet again and we request that it be brought back to an 'On Track' status. It is imperative for our local economy that this project moves forward expeditiously.
- 3- Eyak River Bridge Expansion, Copper R. Hwy., Mile 6. This project will provide a pedestrian bridge across the Eyak River adjacent to the main highway bridge. At present the highway bridge is being used by an increasing number of pedestrians and is creating a very serious traffic hazard to both pedestrians and vehicles. This project was envisioned by the AK DOT themselves and given a high priority due to the hazard but it was delayed on the latest STIP. We request that it be brought back to the 'On Track' status.
- 4- Resurfacing Copper R. Hwy, 6-12 Mile. Last year visiting AK DOT managers said this was to be one of their major priorities due to the poor condition of the existing pavement structure. This project does not appear on the currently proposed STIP.
- 5- Gravel-to-Pavement, Copper R. Hwy, 12-18 Mile. This was another project that AK DOT managers said was to be a high priority as the volume of traffic on this section of highway has increased and its completion represents a natural progression of the advancement of our paved highways. This is not on the current proposed STIP.

- 6- Gravel-to-Pavement, Copper R. Hwy, 18-37 Mile. This project has recently been proposed by the AK DOT to reduce maintenance costs. It also represents a link to the new commercial and recreational facilities at 49 Mile the location of Childs Glacier, a major tourism attraction. Reasonable access to these facilities represents a major enhancement to the Cordova economy. It has been cancelled and we ask that it be reinstated.
- 7- Gravel-to-Pavement, Copper R. Hwy, 37-49 Mile. This project has been an AK DOT proposed project for a number of years to reduce maintenance costs. It also represents a link to the new commercial and recreational facilities at 49 Mile and Childs Glacier. Increased tourism at this site will improve the Cordova economy. This has been cancelled on the proposed STIP and our community requests that it be reinstated.

The City of Cordova requests that these projects be reconsidered and reinserted into the 2006-2008 STIP as described.

Sincerely,



Scott A. Hahn, City Manager